

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-03

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DRAFTED BY: NEA/ARN:MHMAUGHAN:PDW

APPROVED BY: NEA/ARN:DAKORN

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R 222259Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 120473

KUWAIT POUCH BAGHDAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT ADDIS ABABA 5992 ACTION SECSTATE INFO

ASMARA CAIRO DAMASCUS JIDDA KHARTOUM LONDON

MOGADISCIO NAIROBI PARIS SANAA 21 MAY

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 5992

DEPT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT PFOR ET

SUBJECT: ERITREA: IS PMAC NOW EXPLORING A FEDERAL SOLUTION?

REFS: (A) ADDIS MEMCON OF 5/19/75; (B) ADDIS MEMCON

OF 5/21/75; (C) ADDIS 5990; (D) ADDIS 5891

1. REFS A AND B BEING POUCHED DEPARTMENT AND MOST INFO ADDRESSEES.

2. DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION INVITED PARTICULARLY TO ASSERTIONS BY KNOWLEDGEABLE INTERLOCUTORS REPORTED IN REFS A THROUGH C (VIZ., OAU A/SEC GEN ONU, EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO EPMG BASSIOUNY AND FRENCH FTAI HICOM DABLANC). TAKEN TOGETHER THESE ASSERTIONS SUGGEST THAT EPMG IS APPARENTLY NOW EXPLORING REACTION OF ERITREAN

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INSURGENTS AND INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS TO AN EVENTUAL OFFER OF

FEDERAL STATUS TO ERITREA.

3. DEPARTMENT SHOULD KNOW THAT WE ALSO HAVE COLLATERAL EVIDENCE THAT NAIROBI-BASED (LIBERIAN) BISHOP CARR, OF AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, IS BEING USED AS CHANNEL TO ASCERTAIN REACTION OF ELF/PLF PRINCIPALS TO SUCH AN EVENTUAL EPMG OFFER. LIBERIAN AMB IN ADDIS PROFESSES TO KNOW VERY LITTLE OF BISHOP CARR'S ACTIVITIES, BUT SAYS CARR WILL BE VISITING ADDIS NEXT WEEK. WE WILL TRY TO GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

4. MOREOVER, THERE IS SOME REASON TO BELIEVE THAT GETACHEW MEKASHA, EPMG'S NEW AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO EGYPT, MAY ALSO HAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO EXPLORE ACCEPTABILITY OF SUCH AN OFFER WITH INTERESTED PARTIES IN CAIRO.
HUMMEL UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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